



PATENT

ND-US040342

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Shigeharu SUMI et al.

Serial No.: 10/829,332

Filed: April 22, 2004

For: HYDRODYNAMIC BEARING, METHOD :
OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME, :
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SHAFT: :
MEMBER FOR HYDRODYNAMIC :
BEARING, SPINDLE MOTOR, AND :
RECORDING DISK DRIVING :
APPARATUS :

Patent Art Unit: to be assigned

Examiner: to be assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the attached references to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. A machine translation of the Japanese language references provided by the Japanese Patent Office is also attached hereto, as well as a completed PTO-1449 form. Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Roberts
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 39,346

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Dated: May 17, 2004



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/829,332
Filing Date	April 22, 2004
First Named Inventor	Shigeharu SUMI et al.
Group Art Unit	to be assigned
Examiner Name	to be assigned
Attorney Docket Number	ND-US040342

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	1	JP-A-2003-324753	11-24- 2000	Sankyo Seiki MFG Co., Ltd.		
	2	JP-A-2003-97545	04-03- 2003	Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.		
	3	JP-A-2003-56567	02-26- 2003	Nidec Corporation		
	4	JP-A-2002-168240	06-14- 2002	NTN Corp.		

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.